

SOUTH BEND

JUNE 2007

Building a 21st Century City
MAYOR STEPHEN J. LUECKE

Letter from the Mayor

Dear Friends,

Government plays several key roles in the development of a city – catalyst, partner, facilitator and convener. As elected officials, we assume the responsibility for leading the effort to achieve the goals of our community.

As catalyst and partner we have stimulated a decade's worth of growth in new industries and local businesses. We have championed development in our downtown, east bank, south side, west side and northeast neighborhoods, resulting in \$1.3 billion in investments over the last ten years. Our economic future is bright, as we aggressively seek opportunities to grow even stronger as a regional economic leader.

As convener and facilitator, through the City Plan process, we continue to foster South Bend as a vibrant, caring city, where residents and government celebrate our diversity and vitality, and together we nurture our educational, social, cultural, natural, human and economic resources.

I have established several key directives to accomplish the shared vision of City Plan:

- We will develop a series of strategies to address the negative effects of abandoned properties, to set higher standards for the maintenance of vacant lots, and to reduce vacant housing by 10% in the next three years.
- We will evaluate the viability of connecting the Airport Economic Development Area TIF to the Sample-Ewing Development Area in order to bring public resources to strategic West Side areas to spur new investment and jobs.
- A key theme during City Plan meetings was the desire to make South Bend pedestrian friendly and to support alternate modes of transportation. Based on that input I have declared it a priority to complete our riverwalk system from Logan Street to Darden Road in the next 5 years. To accomplish that I am directing the staff to start engineering plans in 2007 for remaining segments of the riverwalk.
- To develop bike paths that share the road with vehicular traffic, I am directing staff to establish one major north-south and one major east-west bike path each year during the first 5 years of the Implementation Action Plan. At 10 miles per year, this will establish a substantial 50 mile network of bike lanes in South Bend.
- Finally, recognizing the devastating and pervasive impact of poverty – on individuals, families, neighborhoods and the community, I will convene community and business leaders to explore Bridges Out of Poverty as a strategy to lift families out of poverty in South Bend and St. Joseph County.

People are eager to share in the vibrancy, diversity, opportunity and creativity that is reborn in our city. Building on a decade of growth, South Bend is poised to further this transformation as we implement the City Plan blueprint to reach our goals.

Sincerely,



Mayor Steve

THIS MONTH...

Mayor's Letter

City Celebration - Family Day at the Cabin

TCU 7th Annual Kids' Triathlon

Emergency Preparedness

Enshrinement Festival

Play It Safe with Fireworks

City Celebration

2007 • IN SOUTH BEND

FAMILY DAY AT THE CABIN

July 29

Meet early Indiana Hoosiers and learn about their way of life at the Navarre Cabin, in addition to other fun and educational activities throughout Leeper Park East. Don't miss the vintage baseball game in the afternoon! Admission charged.

Family Day at the Cabin is part of South Bend City Celebration 2007. For more information, please visit SBCityCelebration.com, or call 235-9798 or 235-9951.



Swim
25 yards



Bike
1.3 miles



Run
½ mile

TCU 7th Annual Kids Triathlon

"Every Kid is a Winner" in this exciting City event for children ages 5 to 12 years old! Each participant will receive a race t-shirt, finish medal, post race food, snacks and awards for age division winners. The race will be held July 28 at 8:00 a.m. at the Potawatomi Park Swimming Pool, next to the Potawatomi Zoo and Kids Kingdom, and registration is required.

For more information, registration forms, or to volunteer at the Triathlon, visit sbpark.org/fitness-center/triathlon.htm, or call 299-4768 ext. 239.

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ARE YOU PREPARED?

City and County officials encourage everyone to take the first step in getting prepared for an emergency! There are lots of reasons you might not have prepared for a disaster or emergency: you're too busy to think about it, you don't have the money to spend on fancy supplies, you're superstitious and talking about it means it will happen, or you just don't know where to start. Here are some simple, free steps you can take to become better prepared for a disaster:

- 1. Get a Kit:** It's best to think first about the basics of survival such as **Water, Food, First Aid Supplies** and also **Personal Documents**. You don't have to buy a fancy kit - putting things together that you already have at home is a good first step.
- 2. Make a Plan:** Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance: How you will contact one another? How will you get back together or where would you meet if something happened to your home? What will you do in different kinds of emergencies? What will you do if cell phones don't work? Talk with your family or those you live with to make a plan.
- 3. Be Informed:** Learn about the **emergency plans** that have been established in your area by **state & local government**. Local agencies such as emergency management, the health department, emergency responders, volunteer organizations, business and others plan using an "all-hazards" approach.

The ability of our community to respond to and to recover from a disaster depends on EVERYONE! Take the first step toward better preparedness today! To see a full list of suggested items and how to make a kit and a family plan go to [ready.gov](#).



PLAY IT SAFE WITH FIREWORKS

The South Bend Fire and Police Departments encourage residents to enjoy fireworks the

safest way, by attending fireworks presented by trained professionals. However, if you purchase fireworks for private use, we urge you to abide by the State Fireworks Law. Use them responsibly and with appropriate safety precautions:

STATE LAW GOVERNING THE USE OF FIREWORKS IN INDIANA:

- ♦ Only adults age 18 and older are allowed to purchase fireworks, for use in Indiana.
- ♦ Children may only possess or use any kind of fireworks when an adult is present.
- ♦ Private fireworks may be set off *ONLY* on the user's property, the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks, or at a special discharge location designated by the State Fire Marshal. Fireworks may not be discharged on public property, such as in streets or parks, without special permits issued by the State Fire Marshal and local Fire Chief.
- ♦ Fireworks may be used *ONLY* between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m., with the exception of Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, New Year's Eve, and other similar holidays, when hours are extended to midnight.

Violations of the law can result in fines and criminal charges.

SOME IMPORTANT SAFETY PROCEDURES:

- ♦ A responsible adult must supervise all fireworks activities. *Do not let children play with or light any fireworks without an adult present.*
- ♦ Use fireworks in an open area away from buildings or combustible materials. Keep your audience a safe distance away from the shooting site.
- ♦ Safety glasses should be used by those lighting the fireworks or anyone in close proximity to the fireworks.
- ♦ Have a hose, bucket of water or water supply, or a fire extinguisher nearby and pay attention to the wind direction.

For more information, visit the SBFD website at southbendin.gov/fireworks, or call 235-9255. Please avoid the careless use of fireworks and help us make this a safe Independence Day holiday!



COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME 2007 ENSHRINEMENT FESTIVAL

The College Football Hall of Fame will host its 13th annual Enshrinement Festival on July 20-21. Seventeen players and three coaches, including all-time greats Emmitt Smith, Bruce Smith, Bennie Blades, Charlie Ward and coaching legend, Bobby Bowden, will be forever enshrined into the Hall of Fame during this spectacular two-day event.

Enshrinement pre-festivities begin July 6 with the Enshrinement Celebrity Softball Game and Tournament and continue July 14 with the Enshrinement Ribs Cook Off. The Festival weekend kicks off on Friday, July 20 with the Celebrity Golf Scramble. Fans have the opportunity to play 18 holes with a Hall of Famer or other sports celebrity. Back at the Hall of Fame, "The Caribbean Chillers," the most authentic Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band touring today, will perform live at the Enshrinement Caribbean Beach Party, an outdoor concert on the Hall's Gridiron Plaza starting at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday's fanfare begins with the Hall of Fame's third annual Enshrinement Grand Parade, featuring the 2007 Hall of Fame Class, the Budweiser Clydesdales, marching bands, floats and much more. To enter your organization's or businesses' unit in the parade, please contact John Paczesny at (574)272-0100, x205. After the parade, the Hall of Fame will be packed for FanFest, a one-of-a-kind event that features the Enshrinee Flag Football Game, Youth Football Clinic, an autograph session and much more. That evening, the Enshrinement Dinner and Show formally enshrines each player and coach into the Hall of Fame during an entertaining formal affair. Finally, end the weekend in grand style at the Mayor's After-Party Celebration, with music by the Tom Milo Band, dancing, a silent auction of sports tickets and memorabilia, and much more.

For more information on the 2007 Enshrinement Festival, including times and ticket prices, call 574-235-9999 or visit www.collegefootball.org.



Bobby Bowden

Visit Our Website at www.SouthBendIN.gov!